GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:299
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008
PROPOSED RESTRUCTURING OF SPORTS FEDERATIONS
Agarwal Shri Dhirendra;Rana Shri Kashi Ram

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to restructure the sports federations;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of the federations which have failed to give effective results in sports events and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make these federations effective?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 299 FOR REPLY ON 19-3-2008 BY SHRI KASHIRAM RANA AND DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL REGARDING PROPOSED RESTRUCTURING OF SPORTS FEDERATIONS

(a) to (d) : The Government give recognition to National Sports Federations (NSFs) in terms of 'Guidelines for Assistance to National Sports Federations.' The NSFs seeking recognition have to apply to the Ministry and the Ministry consider their proposal after examining

- The current legal status of the organization
- Recognition by the International and Asian Federations
- Recognition by Indian Olympic Association
- Its undisputed status as an Apex Body in India for the sport concerned
- Its all India spread
- The role and contribution of the organization in promoting and developing Sports in India
- Its internal financial and management practices and standards
- Its electoral practices
- Its protection and promotion of players interests and welfare.

The Ministry reserves the right to suspend or withdraw the recognition of NSF, in the event of serious irregularities being detected in their internal functioning. In case the Government feels that the federation is not functioning in the best interest of development of sport for which it was granted recognition, the Government may withdraw the recognition granted by it to the federation.

The primary responsibility for the development and promotion of various sports disciplines vests in the National Sports Federations concerned. The Government supplements their efforts by providing financial assistance for holding national/international events in India, procurement of equipment, training & participation of Indian sportspersons/teams in international sports events abroad, training/coaching in India under both Indian and foreign Coaches with requisite technical and scientific back-up, as per their agreed Long Term Development Plan.

To decide the quantum of financial assistance, the Ministry has divided the recognized NSFs in the following three categories based on Dynamic categorization based on their performances in Olympic/Asian/Commonwealth Games and World Championships:

- Priority
- General
- Others

This categorization was last reviewed by the Ministry in April-May, 2007 and based on performance in the Commonwealth/Asian Games, 2006 and World Championships, the category of the following sports disciplines was revised:

SPORTS DISCIPLINES	EXISTING CATEGORY	CHANGED CATEGORY
Hockey (Men)	Priority	General
Squash	General	Priority
Volleyball	General	Others
Taekwondo	Priority	General
Karate	General	Others
Football	Priority	Others
Cycling	Priority	Others
Swimming	Priority	General
Kayaking & Canoeing	General	Priority
Fencing	General	Others
Wushu	Others	Priority
Winter Games	General	Others

The NSFs are autonomous bodies having their own Memorandum of Association and Articles of Associations and the Government does not interfere with their internal working. However, the Ministry is in the process of finalizing a Comprehensive National Sports Policy, which inter-alia calls upon the NSFs to reform and modernize themselves to meet the challenges of modern day sport. The policy also aims at establishment of an independent sports arbitration and mediation mechanism based on international best practices, to resolve disputes between or within NSFs or between an individual NSF and the players.